

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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Vanderwyde

The ENCHANTED HORSE



1. When a cunning Indian magician brought to the court of a Persian King an enchanted flying horse, they would not believe him. "Fly to yonder mountain and as proof you have been there, bring me back a palm leaf," said the King.

2. This the magician did, by touching a wooden peg on the neck of the horse. It flew away into the sky, and returned only a few minutes later, with the magician on its back, holding the palm leaf he had swiftly collected.



3. "Here I have the proof you asked for, O King," said the magician, showing him the branch from the palm tree on the mountain. "Now do you believe that this is an enchanted horse?"
"I do indeed," said the delighted King.

4. "What can I offer you for that flying horse?" went on the King. "I must possess such a rare animal." Behind the King stood the amazed courtiers and Prince Firroz, who looked closely at the magician, not trusting him.



5. "In exchange for the Enchanted Horse I ask for a sum of gold," said the Indian magician. "But in addition, I want your daughter as my wife."



6. The King turned angrily away. "The sum of gold you can have," he said. "But you must not ask for the hand of my daughter in marriage." This did not surprise the magician. He smiled cunningly, for he knew that the King wanted the Enchanted Horse so much that he would agree to give up his most precious daughter in exchange.



7. However, Prince Firroz was not going to stand there and see his sweet sister handed over to the greedy magician, so he ran forward and leapt on to the back of the magic horse. "I will make that horrid man change his mind," he said.



8. By touching the wooden peg on the horse's neck, Prince Firroz sent it soaring into the sky. Down below him the King and the courtiers stood staring in surprise, and the magician waved his fist, shouting, "Bring back my horse!"



9. The daring young prince was soon flying higher and higher, becoming alarmed when he could not make the magic horse turn round. He pulled first one rein and then the other, but the Enchanted Horse still flew straight on and up.



10. So great was the speed of the flying horse that Prince Firroz could hardly see out of his eyes. As he felt for the wooden knob and touched it, the horse began to obey. It turned and a great eagle hurriedly got out of its way.

Next week : The Prince and the Enchanted Horse fly to a wonderful palace.



1. The Tyrannosaurus. This was the greatest of all the dinosaurs. It was bigger than any animal we have ever seen. It was twenty feet tall, and had teeth six inches long. Although it was a most terrifying animal, it was really a rather stupid creature.



2. The Stegosaurus. Here we have what was really a living fortress, armed with a very powerful tail which had four sharp spikes on the end of it. The Stegosaurus had a double row of armour plating along its back, to protect its backbone from attacks by other animals.



These are "Allsorts" pages. In our language we have all sorts of words. "Prehistoric" is another way of saying "very long time ago"—millions of years, in fact.

All Sorts of



5. The Macroplata. This was a reptile with a head like a crocodile and a body that looked like a snake threaded through a turtle. Its limbs acted like oars which pulled its body backwards and forwards. Although it looked a very powerful animal, the Macroplata could not swim at any great speed.



6. The Basilisk. There are some descendants of prehistoric animals still living in various parts of the world. One of these animals is called the basilisk. It lives in South America, feeding on leaves and plants.



3. The Iguanodon, its name means Iguana-tooth, and its remains were discovered only a little over 150 years ago. The Iguanodon was not a meat-eater. It fed only on plants. When feeding or resting, it had the habit of sitting on its hind legs and tail, as you can see in the picture above. You cannot, of course, see one alive today.



4. The Megalosaurus. Another member of the dinosaur family. It ran on its hind legs, which were very strong. This animal was often as much as thirty feet long and had three big claws on each of its hind legs.

Prehistoric Animals



7. The Tuatara. This is another survivor from those ancient days. The Tuatara is about two and a half feet long and lives on some small islands off New Zealand.



8. The Sea Iguana. It can still be seen, for it lives in the Galapagos Islands in the Pacific Ocean. It is about five feet long and is a good swimmer. The Sea Iguana lives entirely on seaweed, which it finds growing on rocks and on the sea-bed. It looks a bit like a fearsome dragon.



BRER RABBIT

How Brer Rabbit succeeded in raising a dust. By Barbara Hayes.

NOW there was a time, back in the old days, when all the animals were very keen on calling on Miss Meadows and the girls.

Poor Miss Meadows and the girls didn't get any peace from one week's end to the other.

On Tuesday the animals would come calling and on Sunday they would come calling and on Friday they would come calling, just as they had on Tuesday.

If on a Monday Miss Meadows fixed a nice chicken pie, sure enough Brer Fox and Brer Bear would drop in and eat it all up.

If Miss Meadows had fixed a nice fry-up of greens for Thursday, sure enough Brer Rabbit would slip in and eat it all.

You see, Miss Meadows was such a good cook and the girls were such jolly company that the animals just couldn't stay away. But at last Miss Meadows was really tired of it all.

"It's just like keeping an hotel, with all these animals dropping in all the time," she said to the girls, "and I'm not doing it any longer."

So Miss Meadows and the girls arranged amongst themselves that the next time the animals came calling, a special game would be arranged.

"You can all come round next Saturday evening," Miss Meadows said to the animals. "Then we will go down the road a piece to where there is a big flint rock and whichever one of you can take a sledge-hammer and hit the rock and get dust out of it—he is the one who can go on coming round to my house to dinner. But those who don't raise any dust, needn't come round for free meals any more."

Of course, Miss Meadows knew that it was impossible to knock dust out of a flint rock, so she thought she was getting rid of her visitors for ever.

It all sounded a clever idea that must work.

But Miss Meadows had reckoned without Brer Rabbit.

While all the other animals were talking about how easily they could raise some silly old dust, Brer Rabbit crept away into the cool shade of an apple tree in a weed-patch and sat making his clever little brain work.

Then by and by, he leapt up into the air and cracked his heels together and snapped his fingers.

He had had an idea.

He rushed straight round to Brer Coon's house to borrow his slippers.

Then on Saturday evening, when Miss Meadows and Brer Coon and Brer Fox and Brer Wolf and Brer Bear were all by the big flint rock—who should come shuffling round in the slippers, but old Brer Rabbit.

Brer Fox laughed and said that Brer Rabbit must have a lot of corns, if he had to wear slippers.

But then Brer Rabbit said he was so used to riding Brer Fox like a horse, that his feet had become soft that way.

And Brer Fox stopped laughing after that, because he was ashamed of the way he had been tricked into letting Brer Rabbit ride him.

Now the truth of the matter was that Brer Rabbit had put ashes into the slippers before he had put them on—and you will see why in a minute.

The arrangement was that each animal was to have three turns at hitting the flint rock with the sledge hammer and the first one to raise some dust, would be the winner.

Well, first Brer Fox tried—*blim!*

But no dust came.

Then he tried again—*blam!*

But no dust came.

Then he rubbed his hands together and gave a big swing with the hammer—*ker-blap!*

But still no dust flew.

Then Brer Wolf had a try and Brer Bear and all the others, but still no dust flew.

Then it was the turn of cheeky Brer Rabbit.

He grabbed hold of the sledge hammer and lifted it up high. Then he leapt into the air and clicked his heels together and—*POW!*—he brought the sledge hammer down on to the rock.

And the dust flew everywhere!

It flew about so much that Brer Fox

and the other animals had a sneezing fit and Miss Meadows and the girls started coughing.

Three times Brer Rabbit jumped up and clicked his heels together and brought the sledge hammer down on the rock—*ker-blam!*—and every time he shouted: "Stand further back, ladies. Here comes the dust!"

And sure enough, every time, the dust came.

Of course, it was really ash out of Brer Rabbit's slippers, but Brer Rabbit was the only one who knew that.

So Brer Rabbit won the game and went on having free dinners at Miss Meadows'.

My, weren't the other animals jealous!

There will be another Brer Rabbit story week.





A. Mummy Bear, Daddy Bear and the Little Bears take a car-ride to the country. How many bears are there ?



B. They stop when they see some horses prancing in a field. How many horses can you count ?



C. Then they wander on and watch some stately swans. How many swans are there ?



D. Next, the Bears are delighted to see some calves in a field. How many calves can be seen ?



E. On the way back to the car they try to catch butterflies. How many pretty butterflies are there ?

Answers : A=7, B=5, C=5, D=5, E=8.

The Great River Amazon



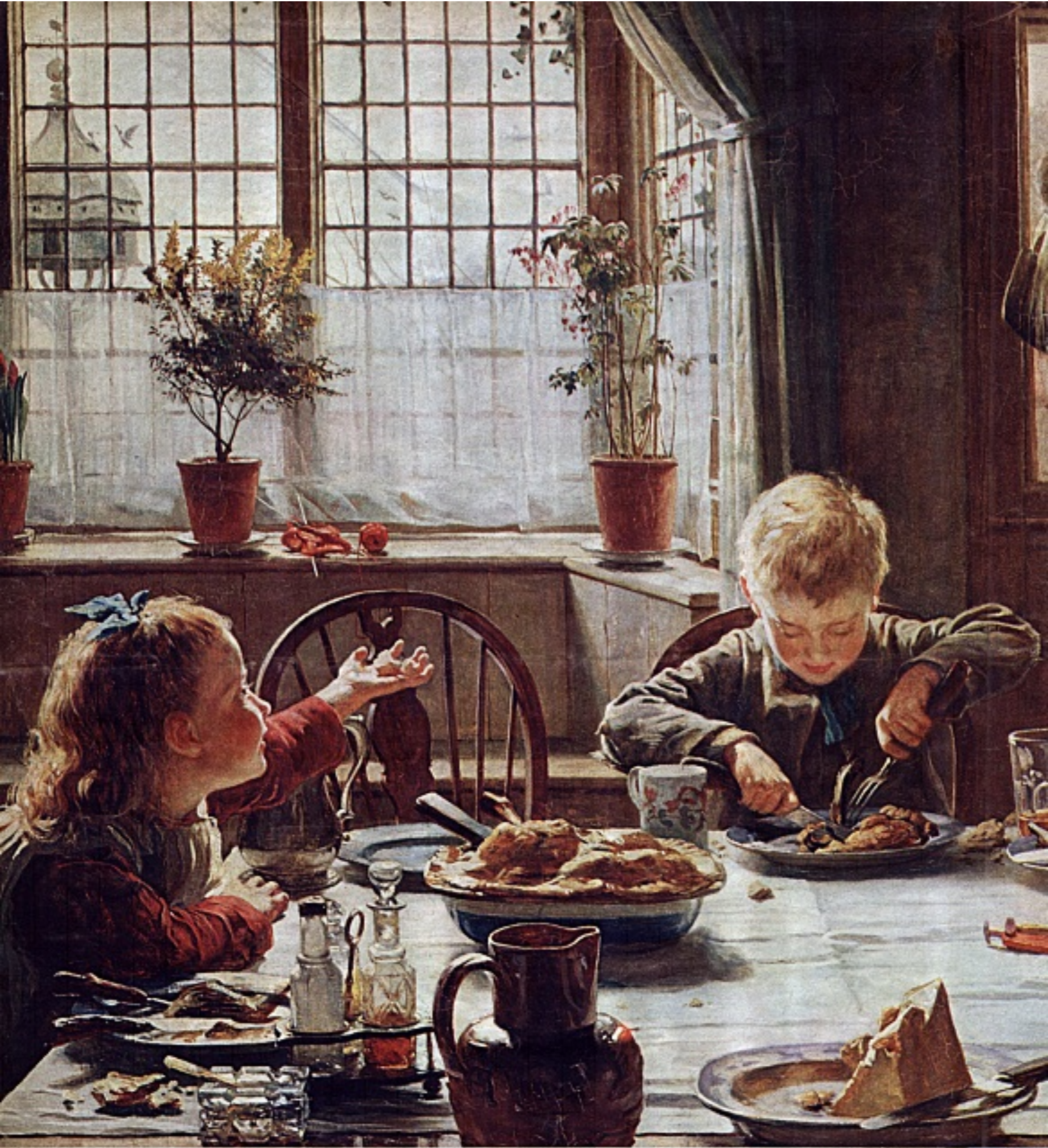
This huge area in the Northern part of South America is known as the Great Amazon Basin. It shows the many rivers which join to make up the mighty River Amazon, before it pours into the Atlantic Ocean.



The River Amazon is 4,000 miles long. It is the second longest river in the world, the River Nile in Africa being the longest. The Amazon is in South America, coloured red on the small map.



Do you know why it is called the River Amazon? Old Greek legends tell of a race of women warriors known as Amazons. Some Spanish explorers were the first men from Europe to discover the great river and were attacked by fierce natives dressed in grass skirts. They reminded the Spaniards of the Greek Amazons, and that is why they called it the River Amazon.



This story is a memory test. Read it carefully and then turn to page 16 and see if you can answer the questions about it that are printed there.

It is supper time on a summer day ninety years ago. The farmer has just come home from his long day's work in the fields. Hour after hour he has trudged behind his plough and his patient horse, and now he is ready for a good

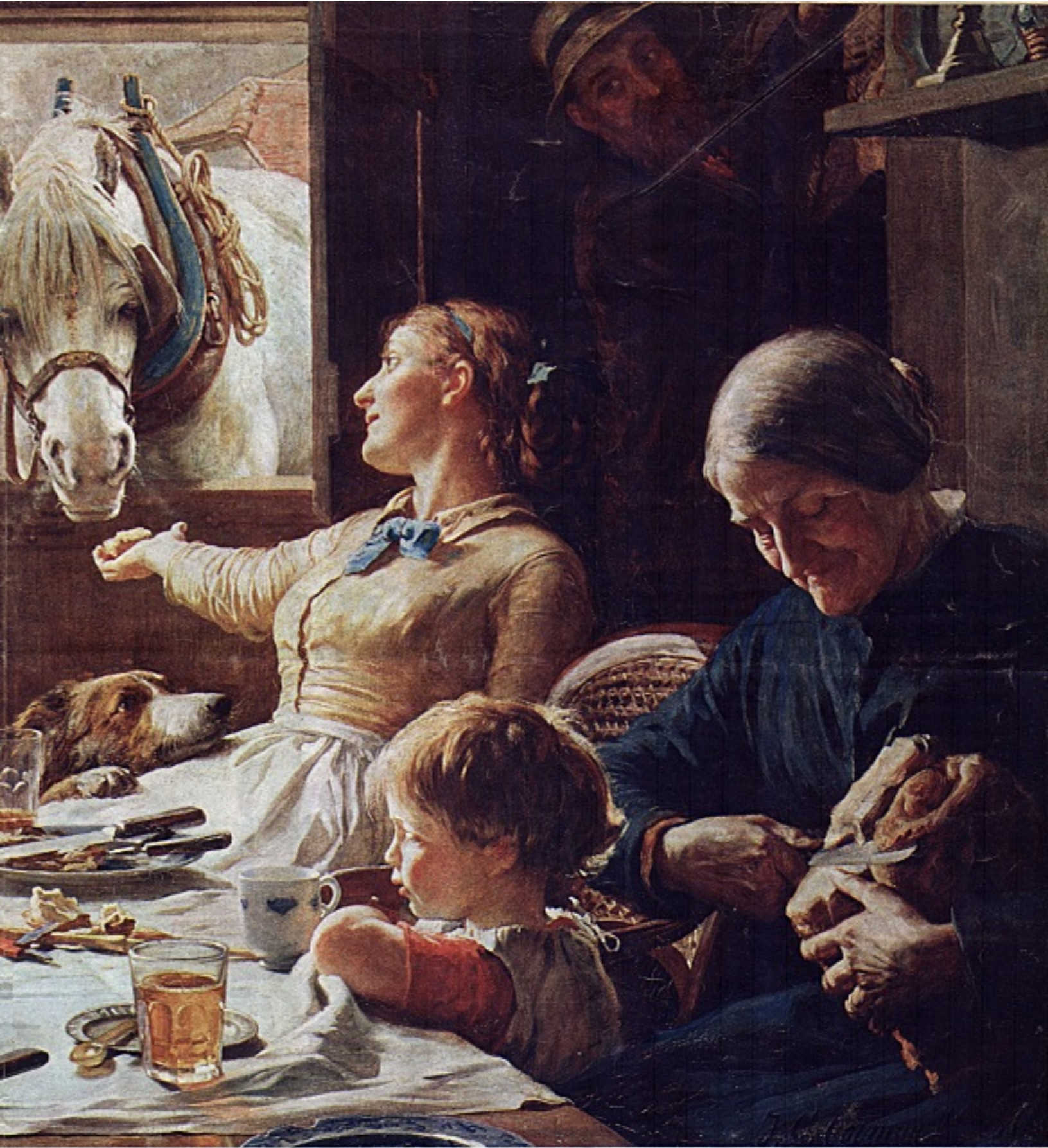
meal of steak-and-kidney pie. Can you see the pie on the table?

But Bessie, the old grey mare, is hungry too. She is waiting for her master to take her to her stable for the night. She knows that the kind farmer's wife always has a

piece of pie-crust for her to munch. For Bessie has served the farm for many years and is now like "one of the family".

The farmer's eldest daughter, who loves riding on Bessie's back, is also offering a little tit-bit of pie-crust to the

ONE OF



THE FAMILY

This beautiful picture, "One of the Family," was painted by Frederick G. Colman, and is reproduced by kind permission of the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool.

old horse, but her brother is too hungry to stop eating and greet his four-footed friend.

Just look at grandmother. She knows that her son loves eating her home-made bread and she is cutting him a thick slice.

Back in those far-off days, bread was often baked at home, and very good and tasty bread it was, too.

Now take a good look at the picture and count how many flower-pots you can see on the mantel-piece, how many

plates, and how many milk jugs there are on the table. Can you remember how many flower-pots and milk jugs you have counted?

Now turn to the questions on page 16 and try to answer them.

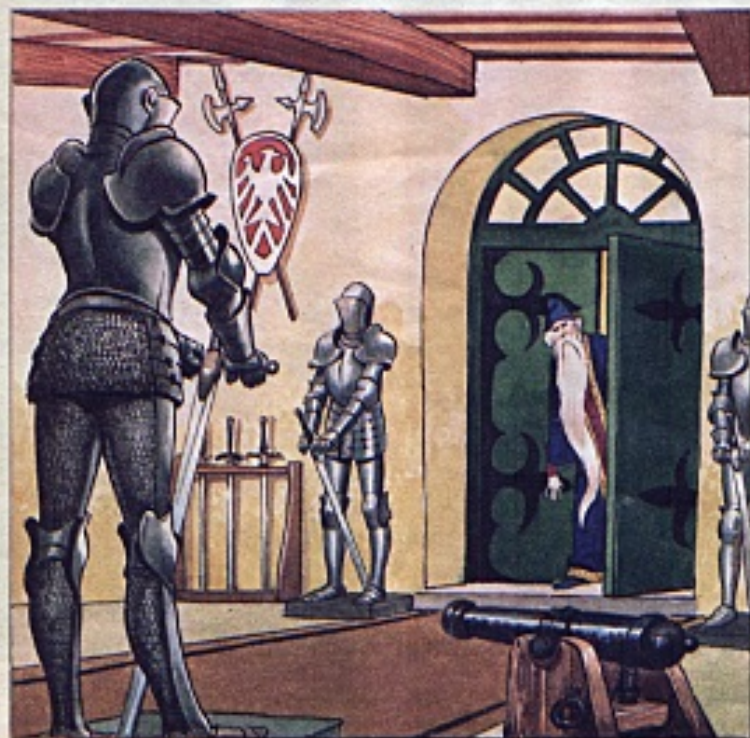
The King who was Timid



1. Poor King Timothy had always tried so hard to be brave but it was never any use. Whenever danger threatened his heart would thump and his knees would knock. So it is not hard to imagine how he felt when he learned that the beautiful princess he was to marry had been captured by a fierce dragon and was waiting for King Timothy to rescue her.



2. The Royal Magician promised to make a magic sword with which King Timothy would be able to defeat any foe. But he was not a very good magician and although he went away and tried all the magic spells and magic words he knew, nothing happened. He said the words again, backwards this time, but still nothing happened. No magic sword appeared.



3. "Oh dear! What am I going to do?" wailed the Royal Magician. "Because the king is expecting a magic sword he has sent a letter to the dragon, arranging to fight him tomorrow morning." So, because he didn't know what else to do, the magician crept into the Royal Armoury to find a sword to give to the king.



4. Early next morning the magician presented King Timothy with a shining bright sword, but he didn't tell him it was one he had taken from the armoury. "Ah! The magic sword!" exclaimed King Timothy in delight. "It's lovely. I can well believe that a man armed with this can defeat any enemy."



5. The dragon had a castle not far away. He was quite a large dragon and when he saw King Timothy approaching, his eyes glowed like burning coals. "Ah! Here's that cowardly King Timothy come to challenge me!" he chuckled. "This won't take very long. I'll just breathe a little fire at him and then watch him scamper away." And the dragon gave a roar.



6. King Timothy did feel a little uncertain when he and the dragon came face to face and he saw just how big the dragon was. "But with the magic sword my magician has made for me I have nothing to fear," he reminded himself. And so he gripped his sword more firmly and set about the dragon as brave as any king had ever been. "I'm not scared of you, you silly old dragon," he said.



7. The dragon was very surprised. He wasn't used to people not being frightened of him and after giving a few roars he turned and ran away. As soon as he had gone the Princess was able to run from the castle. "Timothy! I knew you'd rescue me," she cried. "My brave, brave king!"



8. Meanwhile, the Royal Magician had been feeling very guilty and when King Timothy returned he confessed what he had done. "So you see, your Majesty," he said miserably, "it wasn't a *magic* sword at all." "That's better still," smiled the king. "For now I know I can be brave *without* any magic to help me."

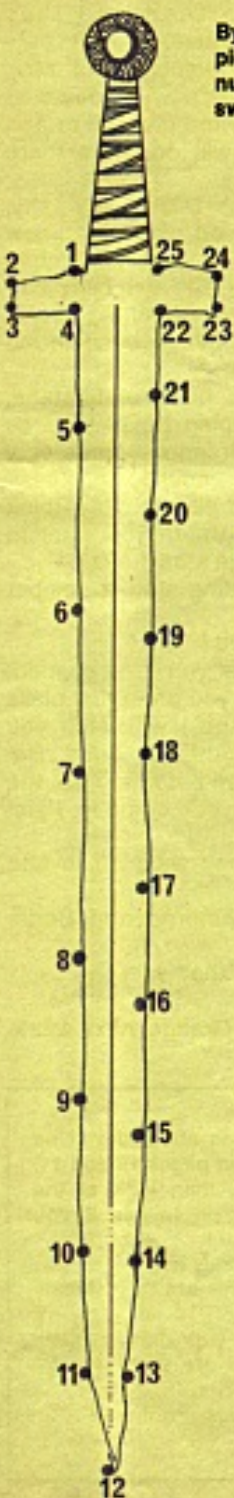


Beautiful Paintings

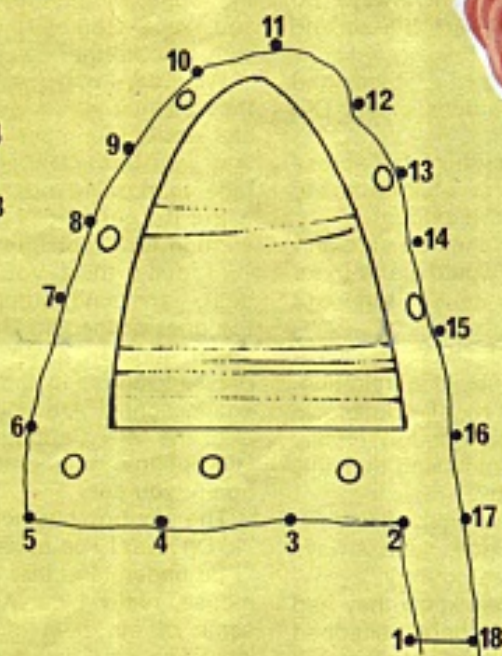
Here is a truly beautiful painting of three splendid dogs. The dog on the left is a pointer. It is called that because when the dog is out hunting with its master and scents a bird hidden in the bracken or bushes on the ground, it "points" to it with its nose, body and tail in a straight line. The dog in the centre is an English setter, while the dog on the right is a Gordon setter. Pointers and setters belong to a group of dogs called "gundogs".

William the Conqueror

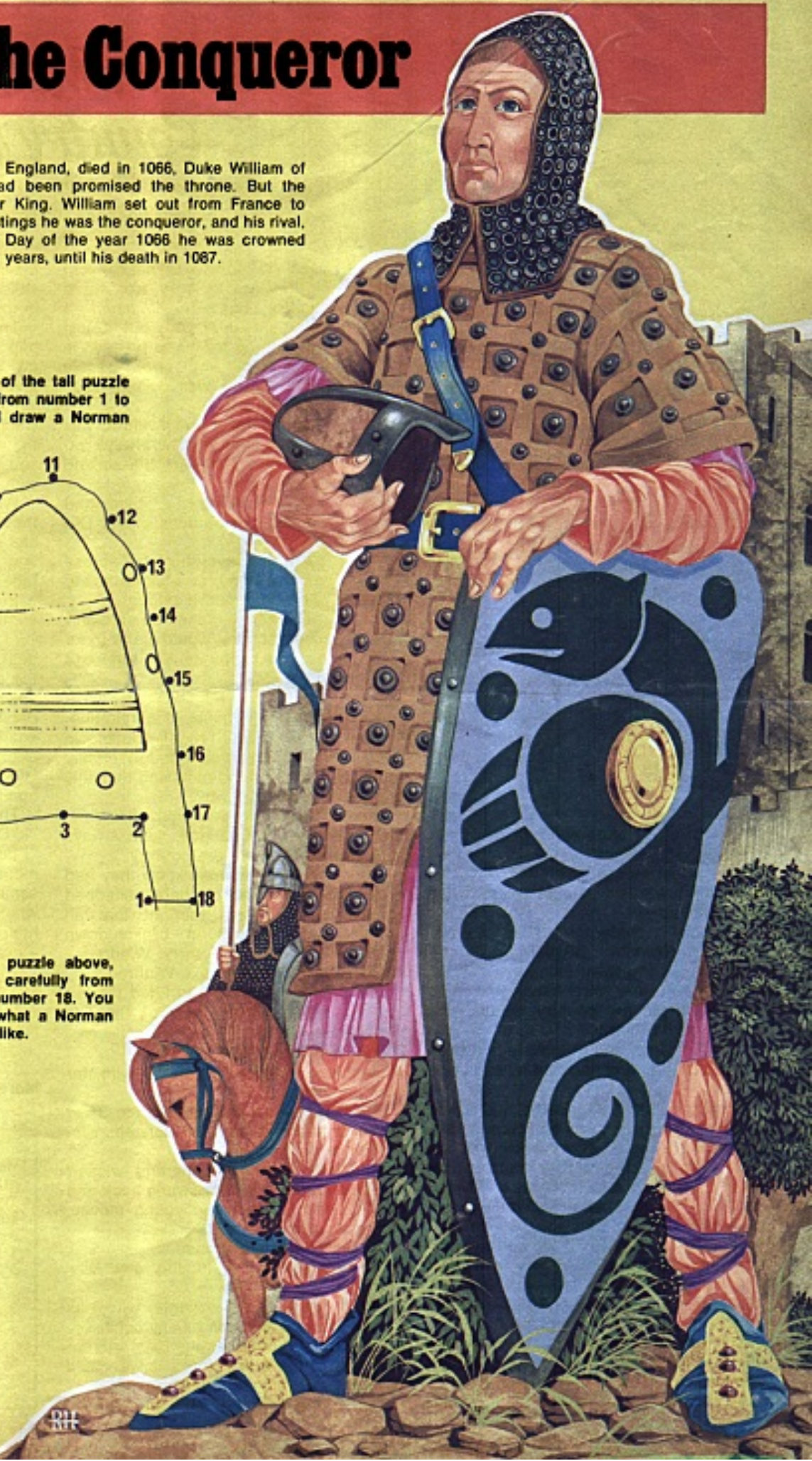
When Edward the Confessor, King of England, died in 1066, Duke William of Normandy, in France, said that he had been promised the throne. But the English people elected Harold as their King. William set out from France to invade England and in the Battle of Hastings he was the conqueror, and his rival, King Harold, was killed. On Christmas Day of the year 1066 he was crowned King William the First and ruled for 21 years, until his death in 1087.



By joining the dots of the tall puzzle picture on the left, from number 1 to number 25, you will draw a Norman sword.



In the picture puzzle above, join the dots carefully from number 1 to number 18. You will then see what a Norman helmet looked like.





The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

The mice go to the Old Grange. By Barbara Hayes.

back to town. I mean—your clothes are all very well for a country bumpkin—I mean a quiet girl—like you, but it just wouldn't do for me to be seen in the clothes you wear—people might think I was dull—I mean quiet—too."

It was lucky that Winifred was so good-natured. She always forgave Stephanie for the unkind things she said.

By this time the mice had reached the gardens of the Old Grange.

A wide gravel drive ran across smooth lawns, to a stone house with round marble pillars.

The house looked so safe and secure, as if it would stand there in those happy fields till the end of time.

"This is the way to live," sighed Stephanie in admiration.

Then she went on: "Nigel, you block-head! Why haven't you enough money to live like this, instead of having that silly old flat of yours in town?"

Nigel blinked. He was amazed!

"But Stevie," he gasped, "you always said you hated life in the country."

"Well, that was before I knew they had grand places like this out here," snapped Stephanie. "I always thought that all country people lived in broken-down shacks like Winifred's—sorry, Winifred—I mean *quaint cottages* like Winifred's."

She stepped forward and lifted the big knocker on the front door of the Old Grange.

WOP! WOP! WOPPETY-WOP!

Stephanie made a fine clatter with the door knocker.

For a moment there was silence, then the mice heard some light footsteps running towards the door.

There were some clanking and twisting noises and then the door swung back and out stepped a handsome young mouse, with a shy expression.

Winifred liked him at once.

"Oh—er—hello," said the shy boy. "Did you want something?"

"Well, yes," said Stephanie, who was usually the first to speak on any occasion. "My friend and I fell into the river and are very wet and we wondered if we could borrow some clothes to change into."

"Of course we will have the clothes

cleaned and returned, as soon as possible—and cleaned by the best cleaners in town."

The shy boy smiled. "I say, what very bad luck!" he said. "Of course I will do my best to help you. I'm sorry I can't invite you into my house. It isn't convenient, just at the moment. But Mrs. Cabbage, the gardener's wife, down at the lodge, will be only too pleased to find you some clothes. I will go down there with you straight away."

Winifred, who was also very shy, thought that was a good idea. She knew she would feel much more at home chatting with Mrs. Cabbage in her cosy cottage, than going into the grand big house.

But the gardener's cottage wasn't good enough for Stephanie.

"I don't think you quite understand, dear," she said, stepping firmly towards the door of the Old Grange. "I am a very smart modern town mouse, the best-dressed mouse in the district. Now think again, sonny. Are you sure you want to offer me Mrs. Cabbage's cast-offs?"

Stephanie was getting into a temper again, you see.

The shy boy blushed!

"Oh dear! I've upset you!" he gasped. "I do understand that you are a first-class mouse, really I do. And I will fetch you some of our best clothes at once. But whatever you do, don't come into the house. I don't let anyone come in. I just daren't."

With that the shy boy went off to find some clothes.

Nigel, Stephanie, Winifred and Bertie looked at each other.

"How mysterious!" they said.

More about the Old Grange next week.

SQUELCH! *Squelch!* Drip! Drip! Shiver! Shiver!

Nigel Mouse was walking across the fields towards a fine old house called the Old Grange.

Squelch! *Squelch!* Drip! Drip! Grumble! *Grumble!* GRUMBLE!

Stephanie, the town mouse, was walking with him, and pitter-pattering behind were Winifred, the country mouse, and her boy-friend, Bertie.

You see, Nigel and Stephanie had been punting on the river and had fallen in and got wet.

Luckily Winifred and Bertie had rowed by in time to give them hot cups of tea, but now the mice were walking to the nearest house to see if they could borrow some dry clothes for Stephanie and Nigel.

"I like the look of this Old Grange," smiled Stephanie, after she had finished grumbling at Nigel. "It is so big and beautiful, the people who live in it must be very grand and smart—just my type in fact. I am sure they will have clothes good enough for me to borrow."

She turned and smiled at her cousin Winifred, and said, "You do understand, Winifred, don't you, that I couldn't possibly borrow any of your clothes to wear

Here are the questions about the "One of the Family" story on pages 10 and 11. Try to answer them, then look at the story and picture again to see if you were right.

1. What was the horse's name?
2. What sort of pie are the family eating?
3. How many flower-pots did you see?
4. How many plates are there on the table?
5. How many milk jugs are there?



JACK AND THE BEANSTALK



1. After climbing the great beanstalk which grew in his garden Jack reached a house where a wicked giant lived. Just as the giant's wife was giving Jack some breakfast they heard the giant returning. "He mustn't find you," quivered the giant's wife. "Where can I hide you? I know! Into the oven with you."



2. The house shook as the giant stamped in. He sniffed the air. "Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum," he growled. "I smell the blood of an Englishman. Be he alive, or be he dead, I'll have his bones to grind my bread." "Nonsense, dear," his wife told him. "It's your breakfast you can smell. Sit you down at the table."



3. When he heard all this Jack was so scared that his heart went thump! thump! thump! in his chest. The oven door was slightly open and Jack pushed it open a little more and watched the huge giant sit down and eat his breakfast.

4. And what an appetite the giant had! Ten whole roast turkeys and four loaves of bread were placed in front of him and when he was finished there was nothing left. "Stay out of sight," the giant's wife whispered warningly to Jack.



5. When breakfast was over the giant fetched several bags of gold from a big chest. He emptied some of the golden coins on to the table and began to count them. One . . . two . . . three . . .



6. The giant's head began to nod, his eyes closed and then a loud snore came from him. "He's asleep!" said Jack. And as quietly as he could Jack let himself out of the oven.



7. The giant's snores grew louder and louder until Jack's ears ached and the whole room shook. "He really is fast asleep," Jack decided. "What a noise he is making."

8. Feeling sure that the giant would not wake, Jack climbed up to the table top and gently pulled the smallest bag of gold from beneath the giant's big hand.



9. Away Jack scampered with the bag of gold tucked under his arm. Out of the big house, along the broad road he ran, never stopping until the top of the magic beanstalk came in sight.



10. He dropped the bag down through the hole where the tip of the beanstalk poked through the sky. "The beanstalk grows from my garden," he said. "So the bag should land beneath my window."

Jack has not seen or heard the last of the wicked giant, as you will find next week.



The WISE OLD OWL

Knows all the answers

The Wise Old Owl knows all the answers to the interesting questions asked by children.



1. What is an athlete?

"An athlete is someone who has been specially trained to be good at some form of sport. To be an athlete you have to be very fit and strong, and that means you need plenty of sleep and hard exercise. The best athletes in the world gathered together to compete in the Olympic Games, held in Mexico City in 1968. The next Olympic Games are due to be held in Munich in 1972. The Games are held every four years, and even now athletes are training hard for this great event."



2. What is the meaning of the word barricade?

"Sometimes, when people are defending themselves against an enemy, they collect everything they can, such as old carts, furniture and boxes. With these they make a barrier across the street to keep their enemies back. This kind of barrier is called a barricade."



3. What is a coxswain?

"Coxswain is a man who steers a boat. If he is on a lifeboat, he is also the captain of the crew. Usually he is the most experienced man aboard. The word coxswain used to mean the servant of a cockboat, or small boat. That is where the word came from. Say it 'cox-un'."



4. What is a stampede?

"If a herd of cattle or horses is suddenly frightened, they may all run away in a panic. This is called a stampede."



5. What is a gladiator?

"A gladiator was a man trained to entertain the people of ancient Rome, in Italy, by fighting against another gladiator."